Extension of West Asian Gas Grid

967. DR. A.R. KIDWAI:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have suggested to the United Arab Emirates that the gas grid of West Asia be extended to South Asia;

(b) if so, whether this suggestion came during meetings with a visiting high-level UAE delegation;

(c) whether the suggestion has been approved by the UAE; and

(d) if so, to what extent it 1 will be helpful for India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) and (b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Acquisition of land for oil exploration

968. SHRI THANGA TAMIL SELVAN:
SHRI R. KAMRAJ:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that large area of agricultural land belonging to poor agriculturists has been acquired by Government for oil exploration activities all over the country;

(b) whether full compensation has been paid to them by Government;

(c) if so, the details of compensation paid by Government during the last three years so far, State-wise; and

(d) if not, by when compensation will be paid to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Oil Exploration and Production companies, namely Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited (ONGC), Oil India Limited (OIL) and Private/Joint Venture (J.V.) companies, acquire land, including agricultural land, from